

MOTION BY CHAIR HILDA L. SOLIS

June 14, 2016

SUPPORT FOR THE LEAD-ACID BATTERY RECOVERY AND RECYCLE ACT

Assembly Bill 2153 (Garcia), the Lead-Acid Battery Recovery and Recycle Act, would create a state mandated Lead-Acid (Car) Battery fee to serve as a funding mechanism for clean-up of areas contaminated by lead-acid batteries. The money from the fee would be used to clean up areas of the state that have been contaminated by the production and recycling of lead acid batteries, such as the communities surrounding the Exide and Quemetco facilities.

According to the United States Geological Survey, the lead-acid battery industry accounted for about 90% of reported United States lead consumption during 2015. Lead has been listed under California's Proposition 65 since 1987 as a substance that can cause reproductive damage and birth defects and has been on the list of chemicals known to cause cancer since 1992. According to the California Board of Equalization's estimates, lead-acid car battery sales in California are approximately \$1.6 billion.

Removing lead-contaminated soil from thousands of homes surrounding Exide could result in the most extensive cleanup of its kind in California and will be among the largest cleanup ever conducted in the nation. At the end of the day, the cost of cleanup in and around the Exide facility is expected to top \$500 million dollars.

I, THEREFORE MOVE that the Board instruct the Chief Executive Officer, in coordination with the Department of Public Health, to prepare a five signature letter expressing the County's support for Assembly Bill 2153 to be sent to the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, the Senate Judiciary Committee, and the Office of the Governor.

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